

Thesis Statement; What do I do?

- Look at the kinds of information you have been finding while taking notes.
- Decide what kind of statement you have enough evidence to prove. (Be sure that you have done enough research to make a strong argument. You may be challenged.)
- Write that as your thesis statement.

There are many ways to approach writing a thesis statement.

Just make sure that it is not simple a fact and that you can support it with good evidence from *reliable* sources.

Here are some ways to approach it:

- Define a problem and state your opinion about it
- Discuss the current state of an issue or problem and predict how it might resolve
- Put forth a possible solution to a problem
- Look at an issue/topic from a new, interesting perspective
- Theorize how the world might be different today if something had/had not happened in the past
- Compare two or more of something similar and give your rating about them (cars, authors, computers, colleges, books)
- Put out your ideas about how something was influenced to be the way it is or was (music, art, political leadership, genocide)

What does it look like?

Let's look at some of the examples from the [Statement of Purpose](#) tip sheet and turn them into some possible thesis statements. These are all totally hypothetical (made up).

Statement of Purpose	Possible thesis statement
"I want to learn about what has influenced the music of 50 cent."	The music of 50 cent has been heavily influenced by (you fill in the blank).
"I want to find out some ways to stop teen gang activity."	<p>Teen gang activity in the United States can be stopped by a combined approach which consists of supervised youth programs, more job availability, and closer family relationships.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Teenage gang activity can only be stopped with early education in the public school systems.</p>
"I want to know how close we are to a cure for AIDS."	<p>Although much research has gone into finding a cure for the AIDS virus, we are no closer to a real cure than we were when the disease first became known.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>After years of research , scientists are on the verge of discovering a cure for the AIDS virus.</p>
"I want to know why Christians and Muslims fought so hard with each other during the middle ages."	<p>Even though Christians and Muslims were supposedly fighting for religious dominance in the medieval world, their motives were strongly affected by the desire for land and economic power.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Medieval Christians and Muslims were fighting exclusively for deeply held religious beliefs.</p>